

# Forage Fish



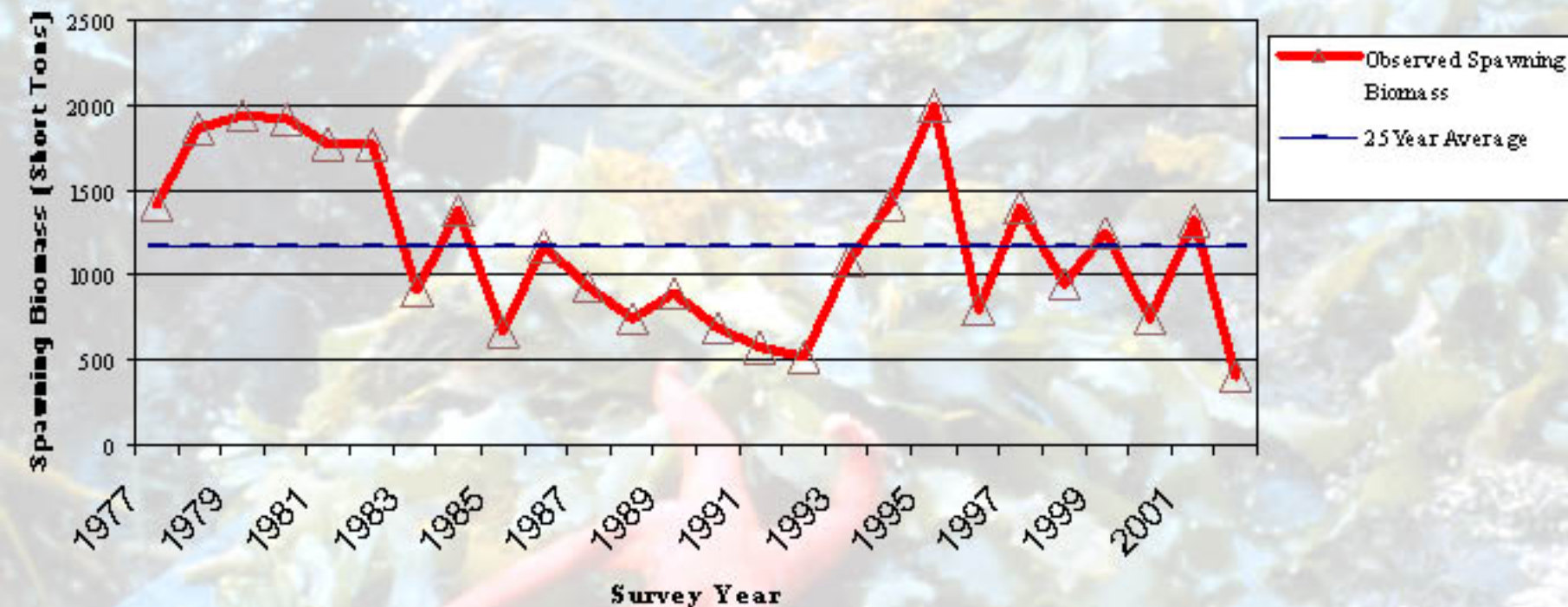
**One of eighteen spawning stocks of Pacific herring spawns annually in and around Quartermaster Harbor. This stock spawns relatively early in the year (January through mid-April), and represents approximately 7 percent of the Puget Sound spawning stock.**



**Sand lance and surf smelt are other forage fish which have also been found spawning along beaches adjacent to the Maury Island Aquatic Reserve.**

**Note: Beaches identified are areas which have been inventoried and spawn has been detected. Other areas may or may not have been inventoried.**

**Quartermaster Harbor Herring Spawning Biomass**



**The Quartermaster Harbor herring spawning biomass varies from year to year. Many marine birds and other forms of sea life feed on herring and other forage fish. This population is one of seven stocks identified as healthy in the last stock assessment (1996). Two herring spawning populations (Cherry Point and Discovery Bay) show signs of collapse.**